

2008 Drivers of the Year

2008 Line Driver of the Year: Michael Hemminger

After over 2,150,000 miles and 34 years on the job, Michael "Mike" Hemminger with Con-way Freight still does not have an accident or an injury on his record. In addition to his great record, Mike also has had perfect attendance for his 26-year career at Con-way Freight. Mike, who was the driver on the month in February 2008, shows up on time and enthusiastic about his job. Daily, he drives from Central Point, Oregon to Willows, California. Mike is a member of the Highway Watch Program as well as a Smith System safe driving graduate. Mike has been married for 32 years to his wife Chris and has two sons and one grandchild. Outside of trucking he enjoys Nascar races and riding his Harley. Mike's Service Center Manager Ernie Costanzo says, "Mike is an outstanding employee highly deserving of this honor."

2008 City Driver of the Year: Cliff Brown

Forty years of commercial driving, 4 million miles and zero accidents or injuries later, Cliff Brown with Freres Lumber is still trucking. This veteran truck driver knows to adjust his skills and as technology changes, so has Cliff. He drives his truck to get the best fuel mileage and is always aware of how much idle time he has. Craig Griffith, the Highway Truck Forman and Freres Lumber Co. who nominated Cliff, says Cliff keeps his truck so clean that you could eat off the floor inside the cab. Cliff also has the best attendance, he shows up on time and always has his equipment checked and ready to go at the same time each day. Craig says that, "As a professional truck driver, Cliff displays all the personal skills and driving skills to be the best he can be."

Drivers of the Month

November 2008: David Park, Con-way Freight

David Park's customers love that he has the ability to problem solve and goes out of his way to help them in anyway he can. He has fifteen years of truck driving under his belt and eight of those at current company, Con-way Freight. David always shows up for work on time and keeps busy after hours raising his four children. He graduated from ITR Truck Driving School in 1993 and is smith system trained.

December 2008: Marvin "Marv" Cowdrey, Con-way Freight

Marvin's supervisor recommended him because he believes that he embodies what a professional truck driver should be. He has a long history of safe driving and is a huge asset to Con-way Freight Eugene. He smiles all day, takes his job seriously and gets along with all of his co-workers. In fact, whenever there is extra work available at the end of his shift, he volunteers his services.

January City 2009: Patrick Stuart, Con-way Freight

Patrick Stuart at Con-way Freight North Portland is not your average driver. With over ten years and over 23,000 hours of driving with his present employer, he has never had a preventable accident. He is a driver trainer for new hire drivers, respected by peers and looked up to as a mentor. Patrick is also active in his community, volunteering at the Race for the Roses, participating in the Values task force and other company sponsored events. Finally he Patrick is one of the service center first aid responders and assists in managing TDC practices.

February Line 2009: Kurt "Jeremy" Kasitz, Con-way Freight

Jeremy has been with Con-way Freight in Eugene for three and a half years and 250,000 miles accident free. He demonstrates a high commitment to safety and doing his job well and acts with integrity. At this time, he making a trip to Wilsonville, OR nightly and is an asset to that operation as well as his own.

February City 2009: Austin Myers, Con-way Freight

Austin Myers with Con-way Freight has been driving for 18 years with almost more than 1 million miles and never had a preventable accident. Austin services the busiest and most industrial area Con-way Freight Eugene services. He has built strong relationships with his customers who often call him directly on his cell phone to request pick-ups and is the reason why a lot of customers use Con-way Freight. Austin's supervisor, Tim Fischer, emphasized how impressive Austin's driving and professional conduct are.

March City 2009: Lynn Spring, Roadway Express

Lynn has an impressive resume, 30 years of truck driving, 1.75 million miles, 5 time defending Truck Driving Championships Champion and no preventable accidents. He was the 2008 Grand Champion of the TDC in fact. In addition to his qualifications as a driver, Lynn is a Smith System Instructor, CDL Instructor, Triples Training Instructor, New Hire Trainer, Fire Engine Trainer, and much more. His supervisor at Roadway Express notes, "Lynn is a model for professional drivers... Beyond demonstrating his exceptional driving skill, Lynn also exhibits passion to improve the professional image of drivers and the trucking industry."